AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A rubber composition for tires which comprises 100 parts by mass of (A) copolymer (a) which is a styrene-butadiene copolymer having a weight-average molecular weight of 4.0×10^5 to 3.0×10^6, as obtained in accordance with gel permeation chromatography and expressed as a value of corresponding polystyrene, a content of bound styrene St(a) of 10 to 50% by mass and a content of a vinyl unit in a butadiene portion of 20 to 70%; 10 to 200 parts by mass of (B) copolymer (b) which is a hydrogenated styrene-butadiene copolymer having a weight-average molecular weight of 5.0×10^3 to 2.0×10^5, as obtained in accordance with gel permeation chromatography and expressed as a value of corresponding polystyrene, a content of bound styrene St(b) which is in a range of 25 to 70% by mass and satisfies a relation expressed by equation (I) and a fraction of hydrogenated double bond in the butadiene portion of 60% or greater; and (C) at least one substance selected from C_9-based petroleum resins modified with a compound selected from unsaturated alicyclic compounds, compounds having hydroxyl group and unsaturated carboxylic acid compounds, ~~synthetic resins~~ the petroleum resins providing tackiness to the rubber composition, and liquid polymers having a weight-average molecular weight of 1,000 to 50,000, equation (I) being:

$$St(b)\geq St(a)+10 \qquad \cdots (I)$$

2. (original): A rubber composition for tires according to Claim 1, wherein the content of bound styrene St(b) in component (B) is 30 to 60% by mass.

3. (previously presented): A rubber composition for tires according to Claim 1, wherein the fraction of hydrogenated double bond in the butadiene portion is 80% or greater.

4. (previously presented): A rubber composition for tires according to Claim 1, wherein an amount of component (B) is 20 to 100 parts by mass per 100 parts by mass of component (A).

5. (previously presented): A rubber composition for tires according to Claim 1, wherein equation (I) is:

$$St(b) \geq St(a)+15 \quad \cdots (I)$$

6. (canceled).

7-8. (canceled).

9. (currently amended): A rubber composition for tires according to ~~Claim 8~~Claim 1, wherein the ~~petroleum-based resin is a~~ C_9-based petroleum resin is modified with an unsaturated alicyclic compound.

10. (original): A rubber composition for tires according to Claim 9, wherein the unsaturated alicyclic compound is dicyclopentadiene.

11. (currently amended): A rubber composition for tires according to ~~Claim 8~~Claim 1, wherein the ~~petroleum-based resin is a~~ C_9-based petroleum resin is modified with a compound having hydroxyl group.

12. (original): A rubber composition for tires according to Claim 11, wherein the compound having hydroxyl group is a phenol-based compound.

13. (currently amended): A rubber composition for tires according to ~~Claim 8~~Claim 1, wherein the ~~petroleum-based resin is a~~ C_9-based petroleum resin is modified with an unsaturated carboxylic acid compound.

14. (original): A rubber composition for tires according to Claim 13, wherein the unsaturated carboxylic acid compound is maleic acid.

15-16. (canceled).

17. (currently amended): A rubber composition for tires according to Claim 1, wherein the ~~synthetic~~ C_9-based petroleum resin has a softening point of 200°C or lower.

18. (previously presented): A rubber composition for tires according to Claim 1, wherein an amount of component (C) is 10 to 150 parts by mass per 100 parts by mass of a rubber component.

19. (previously presented): A rubber composition for tires according to Claim 1, which further comprises a filler.

20. (original): A rubber composition for tires according to Claim 19, wherein the filler is at least one filler selected from carbon black, silica and inorganic compounds represented by following formula (II):

$$mM_1 \cdot xSiOy.zH_2O \qquad \cdots (II)$$

wherein M_1 represents at least one metal, metal oxide, metal hydroxide, hydrate of the metal, the metal oxide or the metal hydroxide or metal carbonate, the metal being selected from Al, Mg, Ti, Ca and Zr, and **m**, **x**, **y** and **z** represent an integer of 1 to 5, an integer of 0 to 10, an integer of 2 to 5 and an integer of 0 to 10, respectively.

21. (previously presented): A tire which uses a rubber composition for tires described in Claim 1.